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Ministerial Meeting on the Creation
of an Effective United Nations
Crime Prevention and Criminal
Justice Programme
Paris, 21-23 November 1991

Provisional annotated agenda

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3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

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6. Conclusions and recommendations.

7. Adoption of the report of the Ministerial Meeting.

Annotations

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting will be convened on Thursday, 21 November 1991, at 10.30 a.m.

2. Election of officers

In accordance with established practice, the Meeting may wish to elect five officers: a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the Meeting was prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/108, taking into account those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the review of the functioning and the programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as the relevant instruments and resolutions of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Creation of an Effective International Crime and Justice Programme contained in its report (A/CONF.156/2).

4. Creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Eighth Congress, adopted resolution 45/108, whereby it decided to establish an intergovernmental working group to elaborate proposals for a more effective crime prevention and criminal justice programme on the basis of the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and to suggest how that programme could most appropriately be implemented.

In response to a request by the Seventh Congress contained in the Milan Plan of Action, which had been approved by the General Assembly in resolution 40/32, the review of the programme began at the ninth session of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.57/1986/4). In resolution 1986/11, the Economic and Social Council, inter alia, endorsed the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in paragraph 82 of that report. The attention of the Meeting is also drawn to Council resolutions 1987/53 and 1988/44 and to General Assembly resolutions 41/107, 42/59 and 43/99 on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice.

In resolution 1989/68, the Council welcomed the report of the Secretary-General concerning the progress made in the implementation of the conclusions of the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice (E/AC.57/1988/13),

reaffirmed its conviction of the importance of the programme of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and the necessity of strengthening it in order to make it more fully responsive to the needs and expectations of Member States and noted that, while serious efforts had been made to implement recommendations related to the substantive aspects of the programme, more attention should be paid to the existing structure and level of management of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in pursuance of Council resolutions 1986/11 and 1987/53 and General Assembly resolution 42/59.

The General Assembly, in resolution 44/72, approved the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/68 and requested the Secretary-General to translate them into action. In the same resolution, the General Assembly welcomed the establishment by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control of a subcommittee charged with the task of providing an overview of the problem of crime and assessing the most efficient means of stimulating practical international action in support of Member States, and invited the Committee, at its eleventh session, to give priority attention to the conclusions and recommendations of its subcommittee and to consider appropriate follow-up thereto by the Eighth Congress.

The Committee, in resolution 11/3, unanimously approved the report of the subcommittee, as revised, and requested the Secretary-General to transmit it to the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

By decision 1990/216, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the Committee's request, contained in its resolution 11/3, that the Secretary-General transmit to the Eighth Congress, for consideration, the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control entitled "The need for the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme" (E/1990/31/Add.1).

In its resolution 1991/15 of 30 May 1991, the Economic and Social Council took note, inter alia, of the report of the Secretary-General (E/1991/19), and requested the Secretary-General to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the resolutions of the Eighth Congress in order to assist interested countries in promoting human resources development, reinforcing their national machinery, undertaking joint training activities and executing pilot and demonstration projects. The Council also stressed the importance of General Assembly resolution 45/108 in determining mechanisms for a more efficient focusing of the programme on those activities where the United Nations could make a positive contribution to the control of crime, and requested the Assembly to give priority attention to the conclusions and recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting, with a view to taking appropriate action thereon, leading to the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Assembly resolution 45/108, the Intergovernmental Working Group held its session in Vienna from 5 to

9 August 1991. The attention of the Meeting is drawn to the report of the Working Group (A/CONF.156/2), which contains a draft resolution entitled "Creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme", recommended to the General Assembly for consideration and appropriate action.

The attention of the Meeting is also drawn to the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of the programme proposed by the Working Group for the resources and organization of the Secretariat, contained in document A/CONF.156/3, which was prepared in response to paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 45/108.

Documentation:

Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Creation of an Effective International Crime and Justice Programme (A/CONF.156/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implications of the Programme proposed by the Intergovernmental Working Group for the resources and organization of the Secretariat (A/CONF.156/3)

Other background documents:

Report of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/CONF.144/28/Rev.1)

Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control entitled "The need for the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme" (E/1990/31/Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/45/629)

Report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice (A/46/363)

Extract from the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (A/44/6/Rev.1)

Extract from the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6/Rev.1, Prog. 29)

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/46/6, Sect. 21)

5. Possible need for a convention or other international instrument to develop the content, structure and dynamics of the programme, including mechanisms for setting priorities, securing implementation and monitoring the results achieved, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 45/108

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/108, the Ministerial Meeting is expected to consider, in the context of examining the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group, the possible need for a convention or other international instrument to develop the content, structure and dynamics of United Nations programme in crime prevention and criminal justice, including mechanisms for setting priorities, securing implementation and monitoring the results achieved. In that connection, the Meeting will have before it two conference room papers on the subject.

Documentation:

International convention on cooperation for the prevention of crime and criminal justice, submitted by the Government of Costa Rica (A/CONF.156/CRP.1)

Future of the United Nations Crime and Justice Programme: A plan for the restructuring of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, prepared by the Helsinki Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI) and submitted by the Government of Finland (A/AC.239/CRP.2)

6. Conclusions and recommendations

The attention of the Ministerial Meeting is drawn to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 45/108, by which the Assembly decided that the conclusions and recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting should be brought to the attention of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for appropriate action.

7. Adoption of the report

The Ministerial Meeting is to adopt a report, the draft of which will be prepared by the Rapporteur.